

## ABSTRACT

Readily-fibrillable fibers of PVA polymer, having good chemical resistance, hydrophilicity, weather resistance and water resistance have a flattened cross-sectional profile and have a mean thickness  $D$  ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) that satisfies the following formula (1):

$$0.4 \leq D \leq 5 \quad (1)$$

wherein  $D = S/L$ ;  $S$  indicates the cross-section area ( $\mu\text{m}^2$ ) of the fibers; and  $L$  indicates the length ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) of the major side of the cross section of the fibers. The fibers can be used for making nonwoven fabrics.